NOW THAT I WAS AWAKE, I KNEW THEY'D BEEN AMONG US ALL ALONG, HYPNOTIZING THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE. I UNDERSTOOD **EVERYTHING,** INCLUDING THE FACT THAT IF I WERE TO GIVE ANY OUTWARD SIGN, THE FASCINATORS WOULD INSTANTLY COMMAND ME TO RETURN TO MY FORMER STATE--AND I WOULD **OBEY!**

ECLIPSE COMICS PRESENTS:

NADA

WRITTEN BY: RAY NELSON

ART, COLOR BY: BILL WRAY

LETTERING: WORKMAN

WORK 8 HOURS
PLAY 8 HOURS
SLEEP 8 HOURS
MARRY AND REPRODUCE

I LIVED ALONE IN A SMALL APARTMENT.

UNPLUG THE TV...

CRACKED

ONE OF THEM MIGHT SAY, "STAY TUNED TO THIS STATION.

I HEARD THE TVS IN OTHER APARTMENTS SAYING "OBEY THE GOVERNMENT" AND "WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS" IN A REEDY, CROAKING VOICE.

RING

HELLO?...

THIS IS YOUR CONTROLLER, POLICE CHIEF ROBINSON. TOMORROW AT 8:00AM YOUR HEART WILL **STOP!**

SOMEONE MUST HAVE NOTICED I DIDN'T RESPOND LIKE THE OTHERS. IF I WERE ALIVE AT ONE MINUTE AFTER EIGHT, THEY'D KNOW FOR SURE... KNOW THAT I WAS AWAKE!
I WENT OUT AGAIN...
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK
MOVE ON!
FOR A MOMENT, ITS FACE DISSOLVED AND CHANGED TO THAT OF A LOVEABLE OLD DRUNK. OF COURSE, HE'D BE LOVEABLE...
I FELT MY GRASP ON AWARENESS WAVER. SO I PICKED UP A BRICK ---.
I SMASHED THE FACE TO A PULP!
WAM! WAM! WAM! WAM
I FIGURED I'D BETTER SEARCH THE BODY...
SOME KIND OF RADIO...
OOWAK! OGOWUG! WIBBLE! WAK!
HOW CAN I FIGHT WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND ...? BUT... IF I CAN AWAKEN OTHERS... EVEN ONE OTHER...
3

I WALKED TWELVE BLOCKS TO THE APARTMENT OF LIL, MY FIANCEE. IF ANYONE WOULD BELIEVE ME, SHE WOULD.
COME IN, GEORGE.
I WANT YOU TO WAKE UP!
BUT I AM AWAKE ALREADY!
NO, I MEAN REALLY WAKE UP! THE MASTERS COMMAND YOU TO WAKE UP!
ARE YOU OFF YOUR ROCKER? YOU SURE ARE ACTING FUNNY!
SLAP!
THUD!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU UP TO?
THE SLAP DIDN'T WAKE HER UP, I WONDERED..
KNOCK! KNOCK!
??
LISTEN, NEIGHBOR... LET'S KEEP IT DOWN TO A DULL ROAR, Huh?
CHRIST!
THE MONSTER STARTED TO CHANGE INTO A FAT, MIDDLE-AGED MAN, BUT I GRABBED A KNIFE FROM THE KITCHENETTE...
NO!
4

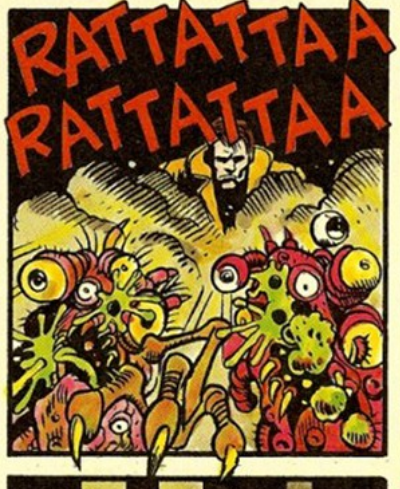
SHE DIDN'T SEE THE DEAD FASCINATOR ON THE FLOOR. TO HER, IT WAS A HARMLESS OLD MAN. I HAD TO TIE AND GAG HER, BUT SHE WAS TOO SCARED TO RESIST. I WENT NEXT DOOR.
I'M LOOKING FOR YOUR ROOM-MATE.
HE WENT OUT FOR A SEC. WANNA WAIT?
YOU ALONE HERE?
Yeah. WHY?
I SLIT ITS THROAT FROM BEHIND, THEN SEARCHED THE PLACE.
THE KITCHEN.
THE NURSERY.
SMASH! MASH! STOMP! CRUNCH!
THE GUN ROOM!
I'LL TAKE ONE ALONG.
RELAX, HONEY. I JUST WANT TO BORROW YOUR CAR KEYS.
MMMMFF!!
5

I DROVE FOR HOURS, DESPERATELY SEARCHING FOR SOME WAY OUT. I TURNED ON THE RADIO.

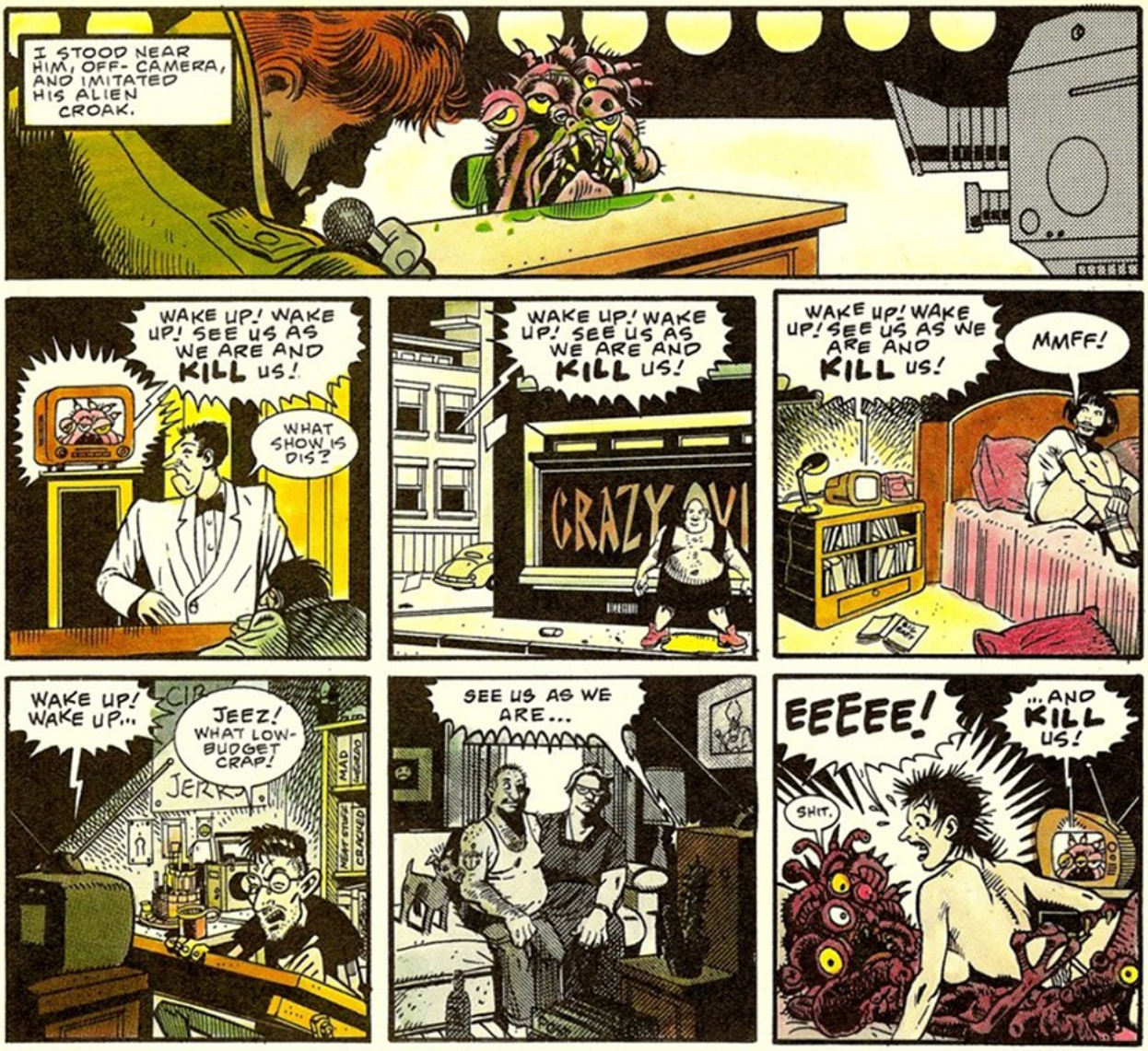
I TURNED OF ON A SIDE STREET AND DITCHED THE CAR.

I DID HANG UP, THEN LEFT THE BAR, THEY WOULD PROBABLY TRACE THE CALL. I TOOK THE SUBWAY...TO THE TV STATION.

I HEARD POLICE SIRENS OUTSIDE, AND EXCITED SHOUTS, RUNNING FOOTSTEPS BEHIND ME.



THE ANNOUNCER STOPPED IN MID-SENTENCE AND SAT THERE, DEAD.


I STOOD NEAR HIM, OFF-CAMERA, AND IMITATED HIS ALIEN CROAK.
WAKE UP! WAKE UP! SEE US AS WE ARE AND KILL US!
WHAT SHOW IS DIS?
WAKE UP! WAKE UP! SEE US AS WE ARE AND KILL US!
CRAZY
WAKE UP! WAKE UP! SEE US AS WE ARE AND KILL US!
MMFF!
WAKE UP! WAKE UP...
JEEZ! WHAT LOW-BUDGET CRAP!
JERK
SEE US AS WE ARE...
EEEEE!
...AND KILL US!
SHIT.

THE CITY HEARD MY VOICE, BUT SAW THE **FASCINATOR'S** IMAGE, AND THE CITY **DID** AWAKE, AND THE **WAR** BEGAN... BUT I DID NOT LIVE TO SEE THE VICTORY THAT FINALLY CAME.

Michael Harte – Der letzte Tag